

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 have been canceled. Claims 35-46 have been withdrawn. Claims 47-54 are pending. Claims 47-54 were rejected. Claims 47 and 53 have been amended.

Pursuant to a telephonic interview conducted August 23, 2005, claims 47 and 53 are herein amended to better differentiate over the cited art. In his final Office Action of June 27, 2005, the Examiner concluded that U.S. Patent No. 5,545,886 to Metlitsky satisfied the amended claim language of "operable to scan the beams across substantially non-overlapping respective regions of a field of view." During the telephone interview of August 23, 2005, the Examiner explained that he considered each of the single traces 13a, 13b, and 13c of Metlitsky's Figure 18 to constitute a respective region. Since the traces 13a, 13b, and 13c do not themselves overlap one another, the Examiner indicated that Metlitsky still anticipates the then current claim language.

The amendments presented herein further differentiate over Metlitsky by specifying that each region comprises a plurality of immediately adjacent scan lines. Thus the claim language as amended specifies producing plural, substantially non-overlapping regions each comprising a plurality of immediately adjacent scan lines that are substantially non-interleaved with the scan lines from neighboring regions.

The Applicant notes that neither Metlitsky nor Krichever (U.S. Pat. No. 5,988,502) nor Obata (U.S. Pat. No. 5,597,997) discloses such an arrangement. Thus, since both independent claims 47 and 53 as amended overcome the cited art, all dependent claims 48-52 and 54 similarly overcome the cited art and, for at least the reasons given above, all claims are now in condition for allowance.

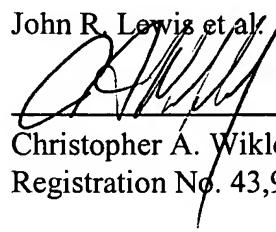
The Examiner is invited to contact Mr. Christopher A. Wiklof at (425) 415-6641 with any issues that may advance prosecution of the application on the merits.

Application No. 10/802,512
Amendment Dated August 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action Dated June 27, 2005

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0284.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

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